

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NAIROB 07287 101452Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPG-02  
FAA-00 /067 W  
-----101628Z 019621 /43

P R 101303Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8885  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 7287

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PBOR, KE, TZ, US  
SUBJECT: KENYA-TANZANIA RELATIONS: POSSIBLE U.S. ROLE

REF: (A) STATE 132204 (NOTAL), (B) NAIROBI 7228 (NOTAL)  
(C) DAR ES SALAAM 2375 (NOTAL)

1. I DISCUSSED KENYA-TANZANIA RELATIONS WITH ACTING  
PERMSEC OF MFA JOHN MWAURA ON JUNE 10, AVOIDING ANY HINT  
WHATSOEVER OF POSSIBLE U.S. ROLE. I LAUNCHED DISCUSSION  
BY ASKING WHETHER THERE WAY ANY POLITICAL MOTIVATION  
BEHIND LAST WEEKEND'S SUDDEN FLAP OVER INTERRUPTION OF  
COMMERICAL AIR SERVICE BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. MWAURA SAID  
THIS MATTER HAD BEEN BADLY HANDLED BY MINISTRY OF POWER  
AND COMMUNICATION, WHOSE OBJECTIVE HAD BEEN SIMPLY TO  
PUT FOREIGN CARROERS ON NOTICE THAT THEY MUST NEGOTIATE FOR  
FIFTH FREEDOM TRAFFIC RIGHTS THEY HAD BEEN EXERCISING  
AD HOC SINCE COLLAPSE OF EAST AFRICAN AIRWAYS. NEITHER  
FOREIGN MINISTRY NOR OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT HAD  
BEEN INFORMED IN ADVANCE, AND PERMANENT SECRETARIES OF  
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PAGE 02 NAIROB 07287 101452Z

BOTH WERE FUMING ABOUT THE WAY IN SHICH THE STEP WAS  
TAKEN. FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM  
ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT ASKING HOW THEY COULD BE EXPECTED  
TO MEDIATE WITH TANZANIA IF KENYA GOVERNMENT ADOPTED  
MEASURES OF THIS KIND WITHOUT ANY PRIOR NOTICE.

2. MWAURA INDICATED THAT ETHIOPIANS HAD TOUCHED

BASE WITH KENYA AND TANZANIA TWO WEEKS AGO, BUT HAD MANAGED TO DO LITTLE MORE THAN OBTAIN RESTATEMENT OF TANZANIAN DEMANDS IN DEADLOCKED DIRECT TALKS WHICH WERE HELD IN ZANZIBAR AND KISUMU EARLIER THIS YEAR. THE TANZANIANS WERE DEMANING NOT ONLY THAT LAKE VICTORIA STEAMERS BE TURNED OVER TO THEM, BUT THAT THEY BE GIVEN TITLE TO THE SHIPS, WHICH ARE THE PROPERTY OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY.

3. ACCORDING TO MWAURA, TANZANIAN OFFICIALS HAVE QUITE OPENLY AND WITH INDISGUISED GLEE ASKED KENYANS WHETHER THEY DON'T FEEL ISOLATED. A MILD-MANNERED PERSON NOT GIVEN TO OVERSTATEMENT, MWAURA ASSERTED THAT KENYA WAS FACED WITH "AN ENEMY WHO IS POLITICALLY AND IDEOLOGICALLY MOTIVATED." HE WENT ON TO SPECULATE THAT NYERERE SEES HIMSELF AS A KIND OF LATTER-DAY NKRUMAH. HIS OBJECTIVE APPEARS TO BE TO FORCE ALL OF EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA INTO A SOCIALIST MOLD, AND THE PRELATEST OBSTACLE TO THIS GOAL IS KENYA. WHEN I ASKED WHETHER KENYA HAD ANY INDICATION OF TANZANIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE SEYCHELLES COUP, MWAURA SAID HE DID NOT, BUT HE KNEW FOR A FACT THAT THE COMOROS IDENTIFIED VERY STRONGLY WITH TANZANIA AND HE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED TO FIND TANZANIA FOSTERING A LEFTIST REGIME IN SEYCHELLES.

4. MWAURA SAID NOTHING OF NIGERIAN MEDIATION ROLE, AND I DID NOT INQUIRE SPECIFICALLY. JUDGING FROM HIS COMMENT ON ETHIOPIAN MEDIATION ATTEMPTS, AS WELL AS HIS SINCERE CONVICTION THAT TANZANIA IS PURSUING

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NAIROB 07287 101452Z

CONSCIOUS POLICY OF ISOLATING KENYA BOTH ECONOMICALLY AND DIPLOMATICALLY, I BELIEVE THE GROUND IS NOT FERTILE FOR U.S. MEDIATION EFFORT. MOREOVER, I FULLY CONCUR IN EMBASSY DARS VIEW THAT WE SHOULD NOT GET IN THE WAY OF ANYTHING THE NIGERIANS MAY BE DOING.  
LINDSTROM

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Subject:** KENYA-TANZANIA RELATIONS: POSSIBLE U.S. ROLE  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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